

INSTITUTIONAL HUMAN ETHICAL COMMITTEE (IHEC)

It is mandatory, as per the Chapter II of the ICMR Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical Research On Human Participants that all proposals on biomedical research in St. Joseph University, Dimapur, Nagaland involving human participants should be cleared by an appropriate the Institutional Human Ethics Committee, in this case, the IHEC- SJU to safeguard the welfare and the rights of the participants. The IHEC is entrusted not only with the initial review of the proposed research protocols prior to initiation of the projects but also have a continuing responsibility of regular monitoring of the approved programmes to foresee the compliance of the ethics during the period of the project.

The basic responsibility of the IHEC is to ensure a competent review of all ethical aspects of the project proposals received by it in an objective manner. IEC will provide advice to the researchers on all aspects of the welfare and safety of the research participants after ensuring the scientific soundness of the proposed research through appropriate Technical Review Committee.

The major aspects that IHEC - SJU focusses on are as follows:

- To ensure that any research using human beings as participants in IITM shall follow the standards and principles prescribed for such trials in the ICMR Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical Research on Human Participants, 2006; and
- To protect the dignity, rights and well-being of the potential research participants.
- To ensure that universal ethical values and international scientific standards are expressed in terms of local community values and customs.
- To assist in the development and the education of a research community responsive to local health care requirements.

COMPOSITION

IHEC-SJU is multidisciplinary and multisectorial in composition

Sl.No	Name	Address	Designation
1	Dr. Rose Mary Y UFS	Medical Officer , Christian Institute of Health Sciences and Research. Dimpaur, Nagaland.	Chair Person/ Clinical representative
2	Dr.BupeshGiridharan	Assistant Professor, (Associate Director – Research - BIHER)	Co-Chair Person/ Basic Bio- Medical

		Dept. of Forest Science, Nagaland University	Scientist
3	Dr.R.Nandakumar	Assistant Professor & Head, Dept. of Zoology, SJU	Member Secretary/ Basic Bio- Medical Scientist
4	Dr. Christy Simpson	Principal, College of Nursing, Christian Institute of Health Sciences and Research, Dimpaur, Nagaland.	Clinical representative
5	Dr.KipitoAwomi	General Surgeon, Dimapur Hospital.	Clinical representative
6	Dr.NaoremChanuSumedha	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biotechnology, SJU	Basic Bio- Medical Scientist
7	Dr.PramodiniMaghRegma	Assistant Professor & Head, Dept. of Social work, SJU	Social Science scientist
8	Mr. John	Lawyer, Dimapur, Nagaland	Legal Expert
9	Prof. Charles Edward Ezing	Dean of Students Affairs SJU	Tribal Representative/ General Observers

RESPONSIBILITY OF IEC:

The responsibilities of the IHEC are to ensure that following:

1. The research study protocols are sound in design, scientifically justified, and statistically valid.
2. The research studies are conducted according to the Indian Council of Medical Research and Good Clinical Practice guidelines.
3. The research study does not compromise rights, safety and benefits of the patients/volunteers/study participants.
4. The research studies are conducted under the supervision of trained medical/bio-medical persons with required expertise.
5. The research studies include only those patients or participant who has given voluntary and informed consent without any inducement or coercion.

Ethical approval of a research study: Each research proposal must be submitted to the appropriate institute ethics committee for approval. It should be ensured that no research project is started unless Ethics Clearance/approval is obtained and that no retrospective/Post facto Ethics Clearance/Approval can be provided to research projects which were neither submitted nor vetted by the Institute Human Ethical Committee.